

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A fish net device, comprising:
 - a. a frame;
 - b. a net of flexible net material, attached to the frame, the frame holding the net in a position to land a fish; and
 - c. a flexible length measuring scale, permanently disposed generally linearly on a surface of the net, such that a user may determine a size of a the fish held in the net by visually comparing the fish with the length measuring scale.
2. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the length measuring scale further includes length markings, representing standard units of length, and numeral designations associated with the length markings.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the length measuring scale includes length markings representing modified units of length to compensate for curvature of the fish and the length measuring scale.
5. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the net forms a pocket in which the fish naturally tends to rest in substantial linear alignment with the length measuring scale.
6. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the frame further comprises a substantially closed loop portion having opposing sides,

and the length measuring scale extends from one side of the closed loop to the opposing side.

7. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 6, wherein the net further comprises:
 - a. first and second side pieces with curved edges;
 - b. a substantially linear center piece, having side edges, the length measuring scale being disposed on the center piece; and
 - c. the side edges of the center piece being connected to the curved edges of the first and second side pieces, forming a pocket in which the fish naturally tends to rest in substantial linear alignment with the length measuring scale.
8. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 7, wherein the first and second side pieces and the center piece are of the same material.
9. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 7, wherein the first and second side pieces and the center piece are of different materials.
10. (Currently Amended) A fish net in accordance with claim 7, wherein the center piece is of a material selected from the group consisting of: mesh and net materials of cotton and polymers.
11. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the net is of a material selected from the group consisting of: mesh and net materials of cotton and polymers.
12. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the length measuring scale is comprises markings disposed directly on the net material, ~~by a process~~ said markings being selected from the group consisting of:

woven markings; embroidered markings; printed markings; and silk-screened markings~~weaving into the material of the net; embroidering onto the material of the net; printing on the material of the net; and silk-screening onto the material of the net.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the frame further comprises:
 - a. a handle; and
 - b. a substantially closed loop portion, attached to the handle, the net being attached to the loop portion.
14. (Currently Amended) A fish net device, comprising:
 - a. a frame having:
 - i. a handle; and
 - ii. a substantially closed loop portion, having opposite sides, attached to the handle;
 - b. a net of flexible net material, attached to the loop portion, the frame holding the net in a position to land a fish; and
 - c. a flexible length measuring scale, having length markings with numeral designations representing units of length, disposed generally linearly on the net and extending from one side of the loop portion to an opposing side thereof, the net forming a pocket into which a fish naturally tends to rest in substantial linear alignment with the measuring scale, such that a user may determine a size of the fish held in the net by visually comparing the fish with the numeral designations on the length measuring scale.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 14, wherein the length measuring scale includes length markings representing modified units of

length to compensate for relative curvature of the fish and the length measuring scale.

17. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 14, wherein the net is of a material selected from the group consisting of: mesh and net materials of cotton and polymers.
18. (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a size of a fish, comprising the steps of:
 - a. placing a fish within a fish net device having a frame and a net of flexible net material, and a flexible length measuring scale disposed on the net material;
 - b. aligning the fish with respect to the length measuring scale; and
 - c. visually comparing the fish to the length measuring scale, so as to determine a size of the fish.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently Amended) A method in accordance with claim 18, wherein the step of placing the fish within the fish net device further comprises causing the fish to rest in a bottom of the net in substantial linear alignment with the length scale.
21. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 14, wherein the length markings represent standard units of length.
22. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the length measuring scale is visible on opposing sides of the net, such that the net may be used in an inverted configuration with respect to the frame.

23. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the length measuring scale and the numeral designations are visible on opposing sides of the net, and are configured to be properly readable when the net is in an inverted configuration with respect to the frame.
24. (Currently Amended) A fish net device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the standard units of length are selected from the group consisting of English units and metric units.